

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are pending in the present application.

The Examiner has required election in the present application between:

Group I, claims 1-12, drawn to a semiconductor device, classified in class 257, subclass 723; and

Group II, claims 13-19, drawn to a method of manufacturing a semiconductor device, classified in class 438, subclass 112.

For the purposes of examination of the present application, Applicants elect Group I, claims 1-12. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to file a divisional application(s) for the non-elected claims.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees

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required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17;
particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Anderson", written over a horizontal line.

D. Richard Anderson, #40,439

DRA/jdm
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